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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Suyker et al.

Application No.: 09/708,617

Filing Date: Nov. 9, 2000

For: Connector, Applicator and Method for
Mechanically Connecting Hollow Structures,
In Particular Small Blood Vessels

: Group Art Unit: 3731

: Examiner:

: Not Yet Assigned

: Attorney Docket No.:

: DVME-1005US

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JUN 30 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and 1.97(b)(1), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Substitute Form PTO.1449 (in duplicate). As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the issuance of the first Office Action.

Therefore, no fee is his application no fee is believed to be due. However, is any fee is due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0462. Moreover, please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0462.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I certify that this document, along with any document referred to as being attached, is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on June 24, 2003 as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. §1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313.

Jayne Webb
Name of Person Signing Correspondence

Jayne Webb
Signature of Person Mailing
Correspondence

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached Substitute PTO 1449 form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art". If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claims in the application and Applicants determined that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Patent Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/24/03



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